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September 14: Surgeon Murray reports at Mississippi City 4 new cases, no deaths. Two other houses suspected.

[Reports to the Surgeon-General United States Marine-Hospital Service.]

YELLOW FEVER IN THE NATIONAL SOLDIERS' HOME, NEAR HAMPTON, VA.

[Continued from last PUBLIC HEALTH REPORTS.]

September 10: Assistant Surgeon Von Ezdorf reports as follows:

I have the honor to state that the guards were promptly removed at 6 p. m. yesterday, in accordance with instructions contained in Bureau telegram dated September 5, 1899. The conditions at the Home remain the same. Governor Woodfin informed me this morning that he would limit the issuance of passes to 6 for every 100 inmates instead of 6 for each company, as previously reported. He is refusing the admittance of any visitors, and is retaining his guard at the entrances to the Home. No one is leaving the Home reservation except by permit.

*Precautions against yellow fever at Key West.*

TORTUGAS, FLA., September 1, 1899.

SIR: I have the honor to append herewith copy of circular letter this day sent to the superintendents of the Union Bridge Company at this station and at Key West.

During the prevalence of yellow fever in Key West your supply boat shall be required to observe the following restrictions:

1. That the crew of said boat shall not be allowed on shore in Key West.
2. That she shall bring no passengers other than those with certificates that they have had yellow fever. All baggage must be disinfected.
3. No clothing or fabrics shall be allowed to land unless disinfected.

Respectfully, yours,

TALIAFERRO CLARK,  
Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

*Yellow fever suspected on Norwegian bark Dina.*

BRUNSWICK QUARANTINE, September 4, 1899.

SIR: I have to report the arrival at this station of the Norwegian bark *Dina*, crew of 15, from Para, with sand ballast. The captain reports 1 man with fever sent to hospital in Para, 4 cases of fever treated on board while lying in the harbor, and 2 cases of fever on passage here; making in all 7 cases among the crew. There were no deaths. The duration of the fever was from three to five days. I could obtain no clinical record of any case. The bill of health issued to the vessel showed 13 deaths from yellow fever for the two weeks previous. I believe the vessel infected and have remanded it to South Atlantic Quarantine.

Respectfully, yours,

R. E. L. BURFORD,  
Sanitary Inspector, U. S. M. H. S.

*Yellow fever in the United States as reported to the Surgeon-General United States Marine-Hospital Service from August 31 to September 15, 1899.*

Places.	Date.	Cases.	Deaths.
Florida:			
Key West.....	Aug. 31.....	6	.....
	Aug. 31-Sept. 4...	28	3
	Aug. 31-Sept. 5...	50	6
	Sept. 6.....	14	.....
	Aug. 31-Sept. 8...	96	8
	Sept. 9.....	31	2
	Sept. 10.....	23	1
	Sept. 11.....	12	.....
	Sept. 12.....	29	1
	Sept. 13.....	35	0
Miami.....	Sept. 5.....	1	.....
Port Tampa City.....	Sept. 10.....	1	1
Louisiana:			
New Orleans.....	Aug. 27-Sept. 12...	7	2
Mississippi:			
Jackson.....	Sept. 10.....	1	.....
Mississippi City.....	Sept. 1.....	1	1
	Sept. 14.....	4	.....

*Smallpox precautions in Texas.*

AUSTIN, TEX., September 1, 1899.

DEAR DOCTOR: Your attention is called to the inclosed copy of the quarantine law and opinion of the attorney-general construing the same. You will observe that upon you devolves the sole responsibility of administering quarantine in your county, and upon me the responsibility of seeing that it is enforced. It has frequently occurred that misunderstandings between county and city authorities have resulted in failure to properly isolate and treat infectious diseases at the outset, thereby allowing the infection to gain such headway that it has required great effort to check it, and the outlay of several times as much in expenses as would have been required if prompt action had been taken. I would, therefore, suggest that you take this matter up with your commissioners' court and obtain from them authority to declare quarantine temporarily when smallpox or other quarantinable diseases occur, without having to wait for their court to assemble.

Smallpox is now known to exist at 16 places in the State, and it may appear in your county any day, therefore promptness is required in attending to this matter. The law also makes it the duty of the State health officer to prescribe rules and regulations for the management of such local quarantine, and in the performance of this duty I call your attention to the inclosed rules and regulations. Great decision and firmness are required to thoroughly carry out the measures therein indicated, but these can easily be acquired if you but reflect on the magnitude of the responsibility imposed upon you. The State health officer is anxious to assist you in every way possible, and he will heartily support you in every necessary and reasonable measure for the protection of your public health, and you are solicited to advise with him freely.

Respectfully, yours,

W. F. BLUNT, M. D.,  
State Health Officer.

I. J. JONES, M. D., *Secretary.*